

COCKRELL'S ARMY BILL FINDS FAVOR.

Several Republican Senators Are Ready to Compromise on It.

ARMY TO BE 62,000 TILL 1901

Native Regiments to Be Recruited in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The initial stage in the fight in the Senate over the proposed reorganization of the army was reached today.

Senator Hawley, on behalf of the Republican members of the Military Affairs Committee, reported the bill of the House, which provides for an organization of 100,000 men, which number, at the discretion of the President, can be reduced to 60,000.

Senator Cockrell, on behalf of the Democrats, reported a bill of his own, the leading provisions of which were printed in the Journal this morning, and which maintains the present army of 62,000 men until 1901, and authorizes the organization of native regiments in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines under American officers.

These bills represent the dividing lines between the Administration and Democratic forces in the Senate. The Democrats insist that unless their proposition is accepted no army bill will be passed at this session and an extra session of the next Congress will be necessitated.

The Republicans admit that the Democratic proposition is more liberal than they had reason to expect, and that unless a compromise is reached an extra session is inevitable. Some of the extremists among the Administration Senators are disposed to make a fight for the adoption of the bill, whether it involve an extra session or not. A number of the Republicans, however, including Elkins, Spooner, Chandler, Lodge and Allison, are ready to compromise.

The result is expected to be the adoption of Mr. Cockrell's bill. It may be amended in a few unimportant particulars, and it is likely that instead of naming July 1, 1901, as the date when the war footing of 62,000 men shall be reduced to the peace footing of 27,000 men, the matter will be left to the discretion of the President.

It is intended to reach the consideration of the subject as early as possible and the debate may begin to-morrow.

Senator Cockrell also presented a report protesting against the proposed permanent increase of the army to 100,000 men in the bill, and declaring that such legislation is not only unnecessary, but would impose great burdens upon the taxpayers of the country. This report says in part:

"We are opposed to the proposed permanent increase of the regular army, the standing or permanent military establishment authorized by this bill, which provides for an army of 100,000 men, officers, non-commissioned and enlisted men, and then says the President, in his discretion, may enlist a small number of men in a company or company of infantry, so that the number of officers and enlisted men in the whole army would be 59,975.

"This is a virtual confession that the bill, as amended, may be applied to the present army of 62,000 men.

"The Constitution provides that Congress shall have power to raise and support armies, but no appropriation of money for that purpose shall be for a longer term than two years. This clearly contemplates that the Congress, not the President, shall determine the number of the army, and no one Congress can create an army and determine its number or strength and appropriate money for its maintenance beyond its own constitutional term of two years, and thus bind a subsequent Congress."

BRAVED BLIZZARD AND SNOWBANKS TO WED.

To Avoid the Postponement of Their Nuptials the Couple Had an Exciting Adventure.

Danbury, Conn., Feb. 16.—Samuel Patterson, of this city, and Miss Martha Parker, who lives in the town of Redding, ten miles from Danbury, were married Tuesday night after a day's struggle with the deep and drifted snow. They are Episcopalians. Tuesday was set for their wedding. If they had not married then they would have had to wait until after Lent.

Patterson, who is an enterprising fellow, prepared a pair of snowshoes and prepared to walk to Redding. From the snowshoes he was going down the railroad and would pass two miles from the bride's home. He carried a snowshoe and a pair of skis. He jumped into a snowbank. With the aid of his snowshoes, which he brought with him, he then started overland for his bride.

Miss Duray was willing to brave storms and snowbanks for her love, so he hurried. He took a toboggan and started back to Redding, dragging the bride-to-be on the sled. They expected there to catch a train for Danbury, but none came. Being told that the snowstorm would return, they waited for that, boarding it late at night and riding to Danbury in the midst of a miniature blizzard. The journey made, arriving in this city, they hurried to the Episcopal rectory, where they were married a few minutes before the hour of 12.

NEW YORK NOW FACES AN OYSTER FAMINE.

Reserve Supplies Exhausted and Ice Prevents Dredging—May Last a Month.

As a result of the blizzard, New York City is on the verge of an oyster famine, which dealers say will last a month. There is no great shortage of oysters, although prices have risen from 15 to 20 per cent higher than ordinary, because of increased difficulty in shipping and handling. Prices are now declining and dealers expect normal prices next week.

But with shell fish the worst effect of the blizzard is yet to come. The reserve supply of oysters and clams has been exhausted. At times during the day prices advanced from 100 to 125 per cent, and in some cases as much as 400 per cent.

The first cause of the shortage is the ice formation in the oyster waters, which is particularly heavy on the Rockaway beds. Another cause is that big resort hotels were laid in last November and December to meet the winter cold snaps. Those emergencies did not arise last month, and most of the large hotels lodged in production and proceeded to work off their reserve. Now they are unable to produce and prices are soaring.

The ruling market price for "counts," or box oysters, as they are known in the trade, is \$8 a thousand. Yesterday offers of \$11 and \$12 were freely made.

Volunteer Generals Discharged. Washington, Feb. 16.—The War Department has honorably discharged Major-General Butler and Major-General Klinger, McKee, Wiley, Lincoln and Condit, all of the volunteer army.

THE GRIP CURE THAT DOES CURE. Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets remove the cause that produces La Grippe. The genuine has L. B. Q. on each Tablet. 25c.

SUNDAY JOURNAL "WANTS." Everybody reads Sunday Journal "Wants" ads. To find the maximum, \$200 in prizes. Big results to advertisers.

N. J. WANTS HIM AS COLONEL.



George Gould, as He Will Appear in a Colonel's Uniform.

The expected acceptance by George Gould of the colonelcy of the Seventh regiment, of New Jersey, will give a big boost to the National Guard of that State. The Lakewood millionaire, who is known for his affability and love of sport, is very popular in the State. Every effort is being made to induce him to take the commission, but so far he has not made any definite promise.

The Seventh regiment is not very strong at present, owing to the fact that those of its members who enlisted for the war were sent to various unhealthy camps and were fed on "Algerized food" and "embalmed beef." When they returned to civilization they were in a disheartened frame of mind, and most of them hung up their rifles in the armories and quit the service forever.

They were good men and desirable as soldiers. General Sewell, who is to be at the head of the State forces, wants to win them back, and he thinks that if Mr. Gould took hold of the regiment it would furnish an inducement to the men to return.

SCHLEY THE VICTIM OF A CONSPIRACY.

Senator Wellington, of Maryland, Sees, Crowninshield Behind It.

Washington, Feb. 14.—Admiral Schley returned to Washington today, and has been invited by the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs to present a statement in his own defense in reply to the charges that have been made against his official conduct before and during the battle of Santiago, when he destroyed Cervera's squadron.

This statement, it is expected, will be submitted within the next few days, and will be read to the Senate in executive session as soon as the Sampson-Schley controversy is taken up again there. Schley's friends have come to the conclusion that they cannot save him from what they term the injustice that the President and the Navy Department have determined to inflict upon him, but they propose to lay all the blame on the shoulders of the late Secretary of the Navy, John D. Long.

The President's action in this case, however unjust it may be, is practically final. Mr. Wellington, the other Senator from Maryland, said:

"It looks as though there was a conspiracy to humiliate Schley and advance Sampson at his expense. The malign influence back of it all appears to be that of Captain Crowninshield, chief of the Bureau of Navigation. Secretary Long is too high-minded a gentleman, and of too generous a heart, to willingly do injustice to a gallant officer. He has evidently been misinformed and his mind has been poisoned against Admiral Schley in such a fashion that it almost looks as though he had been hypnotized. In no other way can I explain his endorsement of the persistent and infamous attempts to blacken Schley's character as an officer of the navy."

"The fact of the matter is there appears to be a conspiracy to deprive Schley of the glory of the victory over Cervera's fleet and to give it to a man who only under forced construction could be considered to have been present at the fight. There is no doubt that Schley was in command of the blockading squadron, and that he won a glorious victory and destroyed the Spanish fleet. Sampson did not either consider the fight imminent or the situation important, or he would not have gone off to visit that man Shafter. It was Schley's victory, and he should have the glory. In the hearts of the American people Schley will ever be remembered as the real hero of the battle of Santiago."

CORBIN FOR MAJOR-GENERAL.

Bill to 'Promote' Him Will Be Pushed Through Both Houses.

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"ESPAÑA" GLAD AT NAVY AND FIRE.

Anonymous Writer Gives "Something Else to Remember."

ON "MAINE ANNIVERSARY."

Is It the "Joke" of a "Funny" Man or Something More Serious?

DUPLICATES OF BURNED PLANS.

By Order of the Navy Department a Court Has Been Appointed to Investigate the Fire.

The Journal received through the mails yesterday a sheet of note paper on which was written in an awkward hand:

Maine, February 15, 1899.
Navy Yard, February 15, 1899.
We give you something else to remember beside the Maine. Can you stand the "ESPAÑA"?

The paper was enclosed in an envelope which bore the superscription "Journal, New York," and two one-cent postage stamps posted, apparently in haste, across the envelope.

The sender of this letter may be one of those idiots who delight in joking about the most serious matters, or he may be what he evidently wishes others to believe him, the head and front of as vile a plot as that which brought about the wreck of the Maine in Havana Harbor.

It is not impossible that the notice of some perverted Spaniards was at the bottom of the fire which destroyed the building in the Navy Yard and wiped out of existence not only the model of the Maine, but also the original patterns of innumerable parts of machinery connected with the ships of the navy. The fact that the fire occurred on the anniversary of the blowing up of the Maine lends color to this belief.

The fire occurred soon after the men quit work in the machine shop. At 6:15 a sentry saw a red glow in a window on the ground floor of the big building. When the workmen left everything was in apple pie order. The watchmen had gone their rounds and found all well.

Incendiary Could Have Entered.

Although it is a cast iron rule of the Navy Yard that no visitors be admitted to any of the shops, it would not be impossible, say men in the yard, for an incendiary to smuggle himself into some dark corner and lay hidden until the workmen closed the doors for the day. The wall surrounding the yard is neither high nor difficult to surmount, and there are many ways in which a person so disposed could enter. There has been a disposition at the Army and Navy Club to hide the fact of Colonel Davis's trip.

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Former Governor Woodbury, An Enemy of Miles, Comes to Consult.

Washington, Feb. 16.—At the opening but informal meeting of the Miles Court of Inquiry today, it developed that the beef packers may have as advisory counsel at least one, and possibly two, of the members of the recent War Investigation Commission; that the court will not proceed on the merits of the case until the arrival here of the beef packers and their counsel.

This latter determination was officially explained today to be no special deference to the Beef Trust, but as necessary, because they are at present in the light of the accused.

General Miles is, however, regarded as the real defendant.

General Miles was informed this evening of the strictures on him in the revised statement signed by Dr. Connor, of the War Investigation Commission, in a New York paper to-day, in which Dr. Connor predicts that "if the Board of Inquiry reaches the same conclusion as the War Investigation Commission, then the commanding General will be dismissed from the army of the United States."

"I do not care to read the corrected or amended statement of Dr. Connor," said General Miles tonight. "I saw a day or two ago in some of the newspapers that the army should be dismissed under the conditions which he now repeats. I did not care then, and I do not care now, to make any reply. The statement of Dr. Connor is beneath my notice."

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